

# 2012 CLASSIC DRY RED

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A classic Australian blend of Shiraz and Cabernet Sauvignon. Each variety is fermented separately and then matured in barriques, providing balance, complexity and softness. It is bright, lightly perfumed and succulent. Shiraz from Margaret River offers fruit sweetness and power, while Cabernet Sauvignon's firm and defined tannins provide structure and length.

## TASTING NOTES

**APPEARANCE** Deep red with a ruby hue

**NOSE** Concentrated and fresh with ripe plum and blackberry fruit interspersed with nuances of pepper and aniseed. Subtle oak derived aromas of caramel and vanilla highlight the background.

**PALATE** Round and creamy in fruit body and texture with a succulent, tangy acidity that balances and drives the palate to a bright raspberry and vanillin toast finish.

## WINEMAKER COMMENTS

The individual batches were crushed separately into stainless steel fermentation vessels. The Shiraz parcels were pressed off skins early to maintain a soft, succulent mouth feel. The Cabernet parcels underwent a suitable duration of maceration so as to extract a fine backbone of structural tannins and blackcurrant laden fruit. The wine was matured in barriques for 12 months, with the incorporation of traditional oxidative handling, to soften and round the tannin profile and add further aroma and flavour complexity.

## VINTAGE DESCRIPTION

Good finishing winter rains with moderate spring conditions resulted in excellent canopy health. The summer ripening period was dry and warm with some above average heat in late January prompting an early start to harvest. The weather tempered in early February and the fruit ripening slowed to a more typical pattern resulting in a long and steady vintage. Continuous fine weather remained through to mid-April when harvest completed for reds.

**VARIETIES** 77.5% Shiraz, 22.5% Cabernet Sauvignon

**HARVESTED** March - April 2012

**OAK** 100% oak, 12 months (1-4yr old)

**TA** 6.2 g/L **PH** 3.50

**RESIDUAL SUGAR** 1.0 g/L

**ALCOHOL** 14.5 %

**BOTTLED** September 2013

**CELLARING** Drinks beautifully now, made to enjoy in its youth